

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 14019 172321Z

70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 DRC-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 /114 W

----- 025869

R 171950Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2382

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 14019

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: DRIFT TOWARD TRADE UNION UNITY - MINORITY REACTION

1. SUMMARY: ELEMENTS IN THE CISL OPPOSED TO TRADE UNION UNITY ARE UNDERTAKING CERTAIN INITIATIVES TO ATTEMPT RETARD UNITARY DEVELOPMENTS. THEY HOLD OUT SECESSION AS A POSSIBLE RELUCTANT STEP IF THE CISL MOVES TOWARD MERGER WITH THE CGIL AND THE UIL. END SUMMARY.

2. THE DRIFT TOWARD TRADE UNION UNITY, PRIMARILY CONCENTRATED IN NORTHERN INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND IN UNITARY FACTORY STRUCTURES, IS CONTINUING TO CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR THOSE ELEMENTS IN THE CISL AND THE UIL RELUCTANT TO LOSE THEIR IDENTITIES IN A MERGED TRADE UNION AND FEARFUL OF COMMUNIST DOMINATION THAT UNION. ANY STEPPED UP PACE TOWARD UNITY, PERHAPS UTILIZING THE ENERGY CRISIS AS A CATALYST, WOULD CAUSE ANGUISH IN THESE GROUPS AND INCREASE THE POSSIBILITY OF OPEN DIVISION WITH THE CISL AND THE UIL.

3. A MINORITY GROUP WITHIN THE CISL IS ATTEMPTING TO MODIFY CISL  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 14019 172321Z

POLICIES IN A WAY TO ARREST OR RETARD UNITARY TRENDS. A GROUP OF

CISL NATIONAL UNION LEADERS, LED BY THOSE FROM THE RAIL, FARM, ELECTRIC, AND TRANSPORT UNIONS AND CLAIMING TO REPRESENT 600-800,000 OF THE 2.2 MILLION CISL MEMBERS, HAVE JUST MET IN ORDER TO CRYSTALIZE THEIR COMMON CONCERN. THESE LEADERS PLAN TO MEET WITH CISL SECGEN BRUNO STORTI DEC 19 IN ORDER TO STRONGLY REQUEST THAT HE TAKE ACTION TO RESTRAIN CISL METAL WORKER UNIONS WHOSE UNITARY ACTIVITY "VIOLATES CISL STATUTES." STORTI WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO DISCIPLINE IF NECESSARY THE MILAN CISL ORGANIZATION WHERE THE MINORITY GROUP CONTENTS THAT PROGRESS TOWARD UNITY WITH THE CGIL AT BOTH FACTORY AND HEADQUARTERS LEVEL IS PROCEEDING APACE.

4. CONCERNED LEADERS SAY THAT STORTI'S RESPONSE WILL DETERMINE THAT NATURE OF A JAN 15 MEETING OF LOCAL LEADERS THESE UNIONS. IF STORTI IS NEGATIVE THE JANUARY MEETING COULD BECOME A RALLYING POINT FOR A SECESSIONIST MOVE WITHIN THE CISL.

5. IN A RELATED EVENT AFL-CIO EUROPEAN REP, IRVING BROWN, WAS IN ROME THE WEEK OF DEC 9 WHERE HE MET WITH TRADE UNION LEADERS IN THE CISL AND THE UIL. SOME MEMBERS OF THE CISL MINORITY PRIVATELY REQUESTING AFL-CIO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR USE EITHER IN SETTING UP AN ALTERNATIVE VOICE (TO UNITY RHETORIC) WITHIN THE CISL OR EVEN AS A FOUNDATION FOR A NEW LABOR ORGANIZATION. BROWN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE CISL MINORITY POINT OF VIEW AS PRESENTED TO HIM BUT LATER TOLD EMBASSY THAT HE HAD MADE NO PROMISES, FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE. HIS BASIC POSITION WAS CLEARLY THAT DEMOCRATIC UNIONS HERE MUST ACT IN THEIR OWN BEST INTEREST AND PROVIDE THE BULK OF MORAL, PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL LEADERSHIP FOR ANY VENTURE. SHOULD THE CISL MOVE TOWARD A MERGER WITH THE CGIL (AND OF COURSE UIL) AND SHOULD A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THIS ARISE, AT THAT POINT OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE CONSIDERED. IT COULD NOT, HOWEVER, BE A DETERMINING FACTOR IN THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF THE VENTURE, ACCORDING TO BROWN.

6. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE CISL MINORITY ITSELF IS LESS THAN COHESIVE. ACCORDING TO PAULO SARTORI, CISL FARM WORKER SECGEN AND MAJOR MINORITY LEADER, THE CISL MINORITY IS COMPOSED OF THREE GROUPS. ONE IS INTERESTED PRIMARILY IN PRINCIPLE AND POLICY NOT PERSONAL POWER (SARTORI, SIRONI). THE SECOND GROUP (SOUTHERNERS) RESPONDS TO A CONSERVATIVE CONSTITUENCY BUT ALSO WANTS TO REPLACE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 14019 172321Z

STORTI WITH ITS OWN LEADERS - SCALIA AND TACCONE. THE THIRD GROUP RESPONDS TO THE "FORZE NUOVE" FACTION OF THE DC PARTY AND IS MOTIVATED MORE BY POWER PLAYS THAN BY POLICY, ACCORDING TO SARTORI. THIS GROUP INCLUDES CISL SECRETARIAT MEMBER MARINI AND COMMERCIAL WORKER LEADERS ROMANO AND DIMARCO. FOR THE TIME BEING THIS GROUP IS IN A WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH CISL SECGEN STORTI.

7. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, LEADERS OF THE CISL MINORITY RECOGNIZE

THAT THE ATTITUDE OF THE DC PARTY AND SPECIFICALLY PARTY SECRETARY FANFANI IS CRUCIAL, AND THAT ANY EFFORT TO MODIFY CISL POLICIES LET ALONG CHALLENGE SEC GEN STORTI MUST HAVE DC BACKING. FANFANI HAS NOT YET SPOKEN. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR RELATIONS, POLITICAL STABILITY, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** hilburpw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973ROME14019  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** ROME  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731221/aaaaaoxk.tel  
**Line Count:** 119  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hilburpw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <15-Oct-2001 by hilburpw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DRIFT TOWARD TRADE UNION UNITY - MINORITY REACTION  
**TAGS:** PINT, ELAB, IT, UIL, AFL-CIO, CISL, CGIL  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005